

From: [Stephen Tzhone](#)
To: [Donn Walters](#)
Subject: fyi: TDSHS Outreach re San Jacinto River Waste Pits site
Date: 10/21/2009 03:06 PM

▼ Fw: TDSHS Outreach re San Jacinto River Waste Pits site

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From: Cynthia Fanning/R6/USEPA/US
To: kim.brode@mail.house.gov, RPATTON@tceq.state.tx.us, rgarcia@hctx.net, mayor@baytown.org, gail_miller@hctx.net, Derrick.Ramos@mail.house.gov
Cc: Tina.Walker@dshs.state.tx.us
Date: 10/20/2009 01:05 PM
Subject: TDSHS Outreach re San Jacinto River Waste Pits site

FYI, here is an update from the Texas Department of State Health Services regarding its outreach to local community regarding its fish advisory. If you have any questions, please let me know or contact Ms. Walker at the state.

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Cynthia Fanning
Congressional Liaison
US EPA, Region 6
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----- Forwarded by Cynthia Fanning/R6/USEPA/US on 10/20/2009 01:03 PM -----

From: "Walker, Tina" <Tina.Walker@dshs.state.tx.us>
To: Cynthia Fanning/R6/USEPA/US@EPA
Cc: "Ellerbee, Tom" <Tom.Ellerbee@dshs.state.tx.us>, "Ingram, Nancy" <Nancy.Ingram@dshs.state.tx.us>
Date: 10/20/2009 12:29 PM
Subject: San Jacinto River Waste Pits

Ms. Fanning,

I wanted to give you an update on the Texas Department of State Health Services activities around the San Jacinto River Waste Pits (SJRWP) National Priorities Site. Tom Ellerbee, Nancy Ingram, Richard Beauchamp, and I traveled to Channelview, Texas October 14th through the 16th in order to distribute educational materials regarding the fish consumption advisory and other exposure hazards related to the

SJRWP. On the 14 we met with staff from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) and Baylor University for a tour of the actual SJRWP site. After the site visit we visited varying locations along the river to talk with citizens whom we found fishing in the San Jacinto River. We explained the dangers of eating the fish, especially to small children and women of child bearing age and gave them a copy of our brochure. Additionally, we disseminated our brochure to five neighborhoods located to the East, West, and Southeast of the site. Other places we left the brochure were at 5 R.V. parks, bait houses, and restaurants near the site.

We met with Gail Miller, Assistant Harris County Commissioner Pct. 2, to let her know what we would be distributing and discuss future plans for the SJRWP site. Commissioner Miller was concerned that the brochure had not been translated into Spanish. The Commissioners office is in the process of having the brochure translated. Once the translation is completed her office will be distributing the brochure in both English and Spanish. (DSHS left her 1,000 of the English brochures). We made a visit to the Baytown Health Department, Environmental Health Division where we left approximately 150 brochures for them to distribute within their clinics. We also met with Texas Parks & Wildlife (TPWD) staff at the San Jacinto Battleground State Park. We were told that citizens can fish without obtaining a fishing license while on State Park property and that the park has a steady flow of fishermen. TPWD agreed to handout the DSHS brochure and to talk to people about the fish advisory (DSHS left approximately 750 brochures with TPWD).

In total DSHS staff distributed approximately 3,000 brochures. We received some positive feedback from citizens, business owners, and County officials regarding the effort we were making.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Tina

Tina Walker, EMT-I
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